

**MINUTES**  
**Eugene City Council**  
**Work Session**  
**Eugene, Oregon 97401**

**December 11, 2023**  
**5:30 p.m.**

**Councilors Present:** Emily Semple, Matt Keating, Alan Zelenka, Jennifer Yeh, Mike Clark, Greg Evans, and Randy Groves

**Councilors Absent:** Lyndsie Leech

Mayor Vinis opened the December 11, 2023, work session of the Eugene City Council in a hybrid format at 101 W 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Eugene OR 97401.

**1. WORK SESSION: Risk Bond Follow Up Discussion**

City Manager Medary introduced Ian Penn, Sustainability Manager, who presented on a Eugene Hazard and Risk Assessment Framework.

Councilor Discussion:

- Councilor Groves – stated the City should communicate with the business and industrial community about the process and the goals; noted he is concerned about unintended releases that are immediately dangerous to life and health; stated it is important for the City to have the ability to mitigate releases and contamination if a company is unable to pay; noted the importance of balancing industry with public protections.
- Councilor Zelenka – stated his appreciation for the planned phased-in approach; asked about the size of the proposed hazards database; noted starting small and building up is a good approach; asked if they have considered vulnerability assessments for climate change; noted the variety of ways to assess climate vulnerabilities and assign risk levels.
- Mayor Vinis – stated the importance of engaging with the local business community.
- Councilor Zelenka – noted this work will narrow the wide range of hazards and risks to a discrete data set that will be high impact, high probability, and high vulnerability.
- Councilor Keating – asked if the boundaries include rail, the non-profit or government sector, and public education partners.
- Councilor Groves – noted the three basic areas to cover are transportation, storage, and use; noted the difficulty of addressing the transportation piece from a risk bond standpoint but that it is important from a risk assessment standpoint; noted the fire department as a good resource.
- Councilor Zelenka – asked about the timeframe from the request for proposal to completing the first phase of work; stated that spending time to create a thoughtful scope of work will result in better proposals.

**MOTION:** Councilor Groves, seconded by Councilor Keating, moved to direct the City Manager to proceed with Steps 1 and 2 as set out in

Attachment C to this AIS entitled "Eugene Hazard and Risk Assessment Framework."

**VOTE: PASSED 6:1** (opposed by Councilor Clark)

## 2. WORK SESSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: A Resolution Calling for Peace And In Opposition To War

Mayor Vinis introduced the topic and opened the floor to comments from Council.

### Councilor Discussion:

- Councilor Groves – noted his initial hesitations with supporting the resolution, but has since realized this international issue does affect the local community; noted hate crimes have risen 300 percent nationally and that is reflected locally; noted one of Council's primary goals is to ensure the safety, health, and welfare of those who live, work, or recreate in Eugene; thanked the Mayor for sharing her perspective on the issue.
- Councilor Keating – thanked Councilor Leech and the Human Rights Commission for their assistance in crafting the resolution; stated the weeks of war in Gaza are easy to abhor and impossible to ignore; stated Council has a responsibility as an elected body to support fundamental human rights, to call for peace, and to oppose war; noted that the resolution is not perfect but it is a strong value statement; urged unanimous support.
- Councilor Zelenka – noted the situation in the Middle East is affecting the local community; noted the October 7, 2023 attack was horrible and that Israel's response has also been horrible; stated war should be avoided at all costs; stated this resolution shows where the Council stands, and they are paying attention to what impacts the community; stated he will support the resolution.

**MOTION:** Councilor Groves, seconded by Councilor Keating, moved to adopt A Resolution Calling for Peace and In Opposition to War as set forth in Attachment A with the inclusion of E) We have a moment to stand for peace, with clarity about the depth of pain and the challenge of compromise that is required.

**VOTE: PASSED 7:0**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Katie LaSala  
City Recorder

*(Recorded by Cherish Bradshaw)*

Link to the webcast of this City Council meeting [here](#).